

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method of filtering messages received by a telecommunications device, the method comprising the steps of:
  - a) inputting a rule set into the telecommunications device by downloading the rule set from a network operator;
  - b) reading an incoming message;
  - c) modifying the message if in response to determining that the message breaks a rule of the rule set; and
  - d) displaying the modified message;wherein the rule set comprises a plurality of rules, each of which relates to a respective predetermined message content, at least one rule of the plurality of rules being associated with a particular local requirement.
2. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the message is a text message.
3. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein step b) includes the step of parsing the incoming text message.
4. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein step c) is such as to delete the predetermined text content, or to replace the letters of the predetermined text content with meaningless characters.
5. (Cancelled).
6. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of modifying the rule set, by the user of a telecommunications device, to accommodate the needs of that user.

7. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications device comprising a transceiver configured to download a rule set from a network operator for input into the telecommunications device, a processor and a display, the processor including software containing a rule set, means for reading an incoming message, means for modifying the message if in response to determining that the message breaks a rule of the rule set whereby a modified message is displayed, wherein the rule set comprises a plurality of rules, each of which relates to a respective predetermined message content, at least one rule of the plurality of rules being associated with a particular local requirement.
8. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the software is such that a user of the device can modify the rule set.
9. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 8, further comprising data input means linked to the processor for modifying the rule set.
10. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 9, wherein a keypad constitutes the data input means.
11. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 7, wherein, where the message is a text message, the software is such as to parse the incoming text message.
12. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the software is such as to delete the predetermined text content, or to replace letters of the predetermined text content with meaningless characters.

13. (Currently Amended) A mobile telecommunications device comprising:  
a transceiver configured to download a rule set from a network operator for input into the telecommunications device, a processor and a display, the processor including software containing a rule set, means for modifying the rule set, to accommodate the needs of a user, on input of a modification of the rule set by that user, means for reading an incoming message, means for modifying the message if in response to determining that the message breaks a rule of the rule set whereby a modified message is displayed, wherein the rule set comprises a plurality of rules, each of which relates to a respective predetermined message content, at least one rule of the plurality of rules being associated with a particular local requirement.
14. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed as claim 3, further comprising searching for a word in a given list of words.